

## GERMANY'S PEACE CAMOUFLAGE TURNED DOWN BY ALLIES

### GUARD CHANGE UP TO LOCAL U.S. COMMAND

Washington Report Says Nothing Done There on Shake-up in Militia Circles; Department Head Has Wide Powers in War-Time

(Special Star-Bulletin Cable)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22 (Delayed).—Gen. Carter, chief of staff of the militia bureau, says that his office is doing nothing whatever with the National Guard of Hawaii.

He says that if there is any shake-up it is coming from the division commander there. He says that under the war department rulings, the division commander has wide power in war-times.

C. S. ALBERT.  
The wireless from Col. Albert, the Star-Bulletin's Washington correspondent, was in reference to a report that a substantial shake-up might be effected in the national guard here, following reports on guard conditions, which eventually would reach the bureau of military affairs. Correspondent Albert's wireless has apparently been held up somewhere ever since Dec. 22, but it does not appear that there has been any change from the situation as he outlined it—that is, any initiative for a change would be in the hands of the Hawaiian department commander.

### ARMY MAY DEAL WITH SOLDIERS IN STATUTORY CASES

If Brig. Gen. J. P. Wisner, commanding the Hawaiian department, is willing that the army authorities should take charge of and try by court martial all cases of soldiers charged with the commission of statutory offenses, U. S. Attorney S. C. Huber will recommend that this action be taken.

Attorney Huber made this announcement today in the course of comment on the expose by the juvenile court of cases in which young Hawaiian girls are alleged to have been sold into lives of shame by women acting as procurers. The case of one woman, declared to be a procurer, has already been brought to Attorney Huber's attention, and he is making a careful investigation. Juvenile court officials claim that soldiers are among the persons to whom these girls have been sold.

Attorney Huber is to confer with General Wisner on this matter in the near future. He pointed out today that it has been the disposition of local courts to let the military deal with and punish by court martial those cases as involving soldiers which, prior to the war, were handled by the civil tribunals.

### Rails Jump As Gov't Controls

#### NEW YORK STOCK MARKET TODAY

	Today	Monday
Alaska Gold	134	134
American Smelter	74	71 1/2
American Sugar Ref.	93	92 1/2
American Tel. & Tel.	105	101 1/2
Atchafalpa Copper	85 1/2	85 1/2
Atchafalpa	85 1/2	85 1/2
Baldwin Loco.	57 1/2	58 1/2
Baltimore & Ohio	53	49 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	73 1/2	71 1/2
Calif. Petroleum	111	111
Canadian Pacific	138	132 1/2
C. & St. P. (St. Paul)	46 1/2	37 1/2
Colo. Fuel & Iron	38 1/2	33 1/2
Cruickshank Steel	52 1/2	50 1/2
Cuba Cane	26 1/2	27
Erie Common	17	14
General Electric	128	124 1/2
General Motors, New	97 1/2	96
Great Northern Pfd.	91	81 1/2
Inter. Harv., N. J.	100	100
Kennecott Copper	31 1/2	30 1/2
Lehigh R. R.	58 1/2	54
New York Central	71 1/2	62 1/2
Pennsylvania	47 1/2	42 1/2
Ray Consol.	21 1/2	20 1/2
Reading Common	72 1/2	68 1/2
Southern Pacific	94 1/2	78 1/2
Studebaker	45 1/2	44 1/2
Texas Oil	134 1/2	129
Union Pacific	114	104 1/2
U. S. Steel	88	85 1/2
Utah	78 1/2	75 1/2
Western Union	82	80 1/2
Westinghouse	38 1/2	37

\*Bid. \*Ex-dividend. \*Unquoted.  
\*Evidently an error as previous quotation was 45.

### CITY "EFFICIENCY PLAN" IS LAUNCHED; CENTRALIZING ORDINANCE IS CALLED FOR

Supervisor Mott-Smith Requests Attorney's Office to Draft Measure—Puts Parks and Playgrounds Under Engineer With Other Public Works—Attitude of Democratic Pair is Awaited With Interest

Supervisor E. A. Mott-Smith today gave the city efficiency plan of municipal public works a new impetus by a proposal calling on the city attorney's office for the draft of an ordinance covering the plan.

He has been working along the lines of centralizing authority and coordinating management for several months and has in mind a scheme which he believes will be simple and workable, and which, he feels, should have the support of his colleagues on the board who stand for real efficiency in the city government.

His letter to the city attorney today briefly outlines the plan, the significant feature of which at the present time is that he proposes including the parks and playgrounds management under the office of city and county engineer.

This feature, it is freely predicted, will cause lively discussion on the board. Chairman Hollinger of the parks and playgrounds committee insists that it is not feasible to include this civic function under the engineer's office. On the other hand, Hollinger has indicated that he supports the Mott-Smith plan in general.

The letter calling on the city attorney for the ordinance is as follows: "I have undertaken to submit for the consideration of the board of supervisors a proposal in the form of an ordinance to combine under the office of city and county engineer, in addition to the present activities of that office, the functions of the sewer and water works department, of the garbage and street sweeping department, of the parks, playgrounds, schools and public buildings, buildings inspector and plumbing inspector, making the same sub-department under the control and supervision of the city and county engineer. Will you kindly cause an ordinance to be drawn covering the above, informing me if there are any legal or technical difficulties in the way of accomplishing this object and how such legal or technical difficulties may be met and disposed of, if possible.

"The object of the ordinance would be to combine that portion of the activities of the municipality which are, or are in the nature of, public works under one head, leaving as other departments of the municipality the fire department, electric light department, police department and health department in addition to the attorney's, auditor's, treasurer's clerks and other departments which are already well defined."

Theresa at Last Wins Victory in Honolulu Court  
Pretty Hawaiian Child, and Not Queen's Will Cause of 'Litigation' This Time  
"Princess" Theresa Owana Wilcox Belliveau won another victory in Circuit Judge Heen's court today for the possession of the beautiful little part-Hawaiian girl who is a familiar figure at the Gore lot as she plays within the wire enclosure surrounding the red brick home of the "princess."

Here's the story:  
Last night the father of the little girl—Charley Mitchell—"kidnaped" the youngster from the "royal palace" and the "princess," immediately upon discovering that the child was gone, telephoned Probation Officer Joseph Leal for help. Officer Leal recovered the youngster.

This morning the matter was threshed out before Judge Heen. The "princess" held the baby on her knees and dabbed at her eyes with a handkerchief. Belliveau, her husband, sat next to her. Mitchell sat on the end. Mitchell's complaint was that the girl was allowed to run loose on the streets. The "princess" admitted a portion of these charges, but declared she had had a wire fence constructed about the "palace" to keep the child within bounds.

"Judge, I've taken good care of this child," said the "princess," the tears coming again. "I've always had enough money to feed her, as well as the rest of us."

Judge Heen remarked that the girl didn't look starved. So he told the "princess" to take the baby home again, but to keep her off the streets.

### COLDER IN EVELETH

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)  
EVELETH, Minn., Dec. 28.—The thermometer here registers 42 below.

### WAR AND THE RAILROADS

#### SATURDAY'S PAPER

Tomorrow's financial page will contain a especially timely article on the government's plans for operating the railroads, on a war basis, begun at noon today, as told in telegraphic despatches.

What this epoch-making move means will be the subject of a special article tomorrow.

(Continued on page two)

### Railroads Now Under Uncle Sam

Great Lines Pledge Assistance and "War Board" Will Continue Operation

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 28.—At noon today the United States government formally took control of the railroads of the country. No ceremony attached to the transfer from private to public operation.

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, the director general of the roads now, conferred with Judge R. S. Lovett of the railroad war board, whose members have pledged staunch support to the government in carrying out its policy.

It is announced that the railroad war board will continue as the operating body. Committees of skilled railroad men throughout the country will assist. No further orders or details of the plan to be followed will be decided until the situation has been surveyed.

Order No. 1, Government Railroad Service, was signed by Director General McAdoo today at 12 o'clock. The signing of this order began the government control and administration of every railroad line in the continental United States doing a general transportation business.

Order No. 1 wipes out all competitive conditions and provides for a complete pooling of all railroad traffic equipment and trackage facilities of the railroads. It announces the retention for the present of all present officers and employees of the various lines and will urge these new government employees to maintain their present high standards in order that the war work of the country may proceed and be speeded up.

Speed First Object  
The immediate result of the elimination of competition will be in the rerouting of all traffic over the shortest lines regardless of points of origin. Everything will be subordinated to handling all traffic, freight and passengers in the most expeditious and economical way for the common good of the nation. Speedy movement of freights will be the first consideration and the aim of the director general and his assistants of the railway war board.

### LOCAL RAIL AGENCIES MAY BE ELIMINATED

Government Commandeering of Roads Does Away With Competitive Feature; General Representative May Be Named for Hawaii

Today at noon with the commandeering of all continental railroads by the United States government, under fiat of President Wilson, all individual railroad agencies and connections in Honolulu of mainland railroads and their employees passed under government control.

Just what effect locally the taking over of the railroads by the government will have is as yet indefinite. It is believed, however, that with the competitive feature eliminated, which is one of the chief objects of government control, all railroad agencies in Honolulu will close. There are three active agencies here, the Santa Fe, represented by H. E. Vernon; the Southern Pacific, represented by Wells-Fargo & Co., and the Western Pacific represented by F. L. Waldron, Ltd.

Just what course will be pursued under the new order of things is unknown as none of the above agencies had up to noon today been advised by their mainland offices.

It has been suggested by local men familiar with the railroad business that the logical course to be followed here would be to have a general railroad representative who would handle all railroad business, passenger and freight, not for any individual line, but as the representative of the government, for all lines. Should this be done, it would of itself do away with the necessity of maintaining individual agencies, as under the new system the need of competition has passed away.

How the nationalization of the railroads of the United States would help the Hawaii Promotion Committee and also similar organizations throughout the country, by the centralization of all offices of all railroads entering a city, besides simplifying the distribution of extension literature, was pointed out this morning by Fred J. Halton, secretary of the promotion committee.

"At present," said Mr. Halton, "we are forced to send literature to all the different railroad offices in all the cities, which is an enormous work, but now if the management of the railroads in each city is concentrated in one office our work will be lessened and the publicity greatly increased."

### Army Will Commandeer Army Goods

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)  
CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 28.—Army authorities here are today taking an inventory of all army and uniform material in the Chicago district, preparatory to its commandeering by the government. Capt. Zimmerman, who is directing the work, estimates that a million dollars' worth will be inventoried. The government has announced that it will pay reasonable prices for the goods commandeered.

### NAMED TO TAKE TESTIMONY IN HON. OIL SUIT

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)  
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 28.—Frank Laning, registrar of the United States land office at Visalia, Cal., has been appointed to hear evidence in the dispossession suit against Honolulu Consolidated Oil Company in the Midway fields.

Honolulu Consolidated Oil stock wobbled slightly on the local exchange and though 500 shares were sold at \$3.90, the bid price dropped from \$3.90 to \$3.75 following a rumor that the stock had dropped to \$3.45 on the San Francisco exchange. Word that Frank Laning, registrar of the United States land office at Visalia, had been appointed to hear the evidence to be presented at the trial of the government's dispossession suit in Los Angeles against the Honolulu Consolidated Oil company is believed to have had some effect on the San Francisco market. The hearing began on December 17 when the company asked that the government's suit be thrown out.

It is believed here that Mr. Laning has been sent into the fields with a view to seeing if he can unearth any evidence that has been previously overlooked. Local stockholders are unable to say as to the light in which Laning's appointment should be viewed, whether favorable or unfavorable. The opinion of the local stockholders is to sit tight and wait until the senate or the house takes some action in Washington, D. C.

### SAYS BABIES ARE BEING ABANDONED

Babies, new-born and up to a year or two of age, are being abandoned by their parents at a rate far more alarming than in any previous year of his experience here, says W. E. Pietsch, head of the Gospel Mission Home, Palolo Valley.

"We have had several instances lately, particularly among the Filipinos," he said today. "In a number of cases the parents became ill or penniless and asked others to care for the children. Lately there have been instances where mothers simply went off and left babies in the care of anyone who happened to be near."

### Coin Fails Bolte In Effort to Save German Rendezvous

Knights of Pythias Vote Not to Rent Hall to Any Teuton Society

Teutonic strategy has once more been overcome by Anglo-Saxon tenacity of purpose. It's a sad and funny story according to one's point of view. The story starts where Fred Harrison requested the trustees of the Knights of Pythias to no longer permit the rental of the lodge hall in the building bearing his name to German societies, particularly the Hermann's Soehne.

The comedy, or tragedy, of the plot appears when it is made known that C. Bolte, treasurer of the German society, attempted to save the hall for the Teutonic society meetings by rushing to the treasurer of the Knights of Pythias and tendering \$120, three months' rent in advance. All this happened yesterday afternoon, shortly after the publication of Fred Harrison's letter in the Star-Bulletin, requesting that the German society be ejected.

The trustees of the Honolulu Mystic lodge of the Knights of Pythias voted unanimously this morning not to sublet their hall to any German society. Incidentally the German American alliance has not been holding meetings in a public hall since it fell into disrepute, but is reported still to be holding secret and private meetings. It was reports of pro-German re-

### RUSSIAN COLLAPSE WILL NOT HALT ENTENTE GROUP; BRITAIN AND FRANCE SCORN HUN TRICK

Lloyd George Declares Allies are Fighting For Purposes Essential to Future Peace--Bolshevik Try Another Tack

Despatches from European capitals today show that the Allies are rejecting without serious consideration the so-called "peace offers" of Germany made just before Christmas in the form of tentative proposals that peace be talked over. A despatch from Petrograd shows that the Bolsheviks will try another tack in an effort to get the Allies involved in peace discussions.

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)  
PARIS, France, Dec. 28.—An emphatic answer and a scornful rejection of Germany's peace suggestions was made today in the chamber of deputies by Foreign Minister Pichon. Minister Pichon declared that France will not accept any peace based on pre-war conditions, thus rejecting what is understood to be Germany's basis for negotiations.

He declared also that Germany is endeavoring to involve the Bolshevik faction of Russia in negotiations, but that the war will continue, regardless of whether or not Germany and Russia consummate a peace proposal.

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 28.—Premier Lloyd George has written to a labor conference a letter which is regarded as a rejection of any peace discussion with Germany now, the reason being that Germany will not discuss any peace except one that will be to her advantage. In his letter he said that the achievement of the purposes for which the Allies are fighting is essential to the future freedom and peace of mankind.

The premier points out also that any restatement of the war aims by the British government is possible only by agreement with the Allies.

This is regarded as the British reply to the German peace offers and possibly the only reply that will be made.

### Liberty Loan Swindler Gets 3 Years' Term

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Elber Dwigins, who was convicted of defrauding Liberty Loan investors, was today sentenced to three years in the Atlanta federal penitentiary. The U. S. attorney told the court that 7000 people had suffered through Dwigins' operations, most of the losses being small.

### Street Dance Is Planned By Mayor To Usher in 1918

Dance the old year out and the New Year in Monday night! Mayor Joseph J. Fern has decided to revive the old custom of having a public dance on the sidewalk and pavement of Bishop street in front of Bishop Park on New Year's Eve and on Monday night the Hawaiian Band will be on hand at 7:30 o'clock when the civic head will also be present to give the word "go."

During his administration in previous years Mayor Fern inaugurated the custom, but it was allowed to languish while Mayor Lane was in power. Mayor Fern stated today that he would revive the custom and that the sidewalk and street would be waxed for the public dance. Mayor Fern will lead the first dance with the prettiest girl in the crowd.

The invitation is extended to all residents, and no charge of any kind will be made. Dancing will commence at 7:30 o'clock.

### MAJ. FREDERICK HADRA DIES AT FORT SHAFTER

Maj. Frederick Hadra, medical reserve corps, who was stationed at Fort Shafter, died this morning at 1 o'clock after a brief illness. News of his death came as a distinct surprise and shock to his friends, many of whom did not know that he was ill.

The officer was a veteran of the Spanish-American war. He came to Hawaii from the Southern Department, arriving here on Jan. 13 of this year. He had many warm personal friends, among whom was Brig. Gen. John P. Wisner, department commander. Funeral arrangements have not been decided in detail, but the services will be held on Sunday. The body will be shipped to San Antonio, Texas.

marks and unpatriotic expressions at meetings of the Hermann's Soehne, rather than just sentiment, it is said, which caused Fred Harrison to decide his lodge hall should no longer be used by a German society.

D'Annunzio, the Italian poet, has received his fourth medal for bravery, in recognition of his services during the air raid on Cattaro.

### PEACE DELEGATES TAKING A RECESS

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)  
PETROGRAD, Russia, Dec. 28.—The peace delegates who have been at Brest-Litovsk have agreed to take a recess and will not resume negotiations until January 4. The place where the conference will then be held is not determined. It is reported that Trotsky is drafting a new note to the Entente powers asking them to participate in the negotiations.

PETROGRAD, Russia, Dec. 28.—Director of Finance Menshinsky has commissioned soldiers of the Bolshevik faction to seize the private banks here, including the local branch of the National City Bank of New York. Manager Stevens of this branch was arrested and detained awhile but later released. The managers of the other private banks surrendered their keys when ordered to do so by the soldiery but Stevens refused.

### Washington Holds Hun Offer Trick

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 28.—That the alleged peace terms of the Central Powers, as outlined in brief by Count Czernin, the Austrian foreign minister, at Brest-Litovsk, and as reported in current rumor, are insincere and cannot be regarded as serious is the opinion of the officials here, including the president.

The conditions that surround the latest peace talk of the kaiser are such that they stamp the terms being offered through the Russian peace conference as lacking in all vitality. The peace talk, in the opinion of the diplomats and officials here, is simply an attempt to gain time.

Despatches from Vienna by way of Amsterdam reports one of the Viennese papers as quoting Czar Ferdinand of Bulgaria as opposed to the peace program outlined by Count Czernin. The Bulgarian ruler announces bluntly that Bulgaria proposes to retain what she has won in the war and does not propose to restore the borders of Serbia, Montenegro and Rumania. The program of peace without annexations and without indemnities is not the Bulgarian program, he asserts.

The United States stand was repeated in the name of the president yesterday by a number of officials close to him. They state that Germany cannot today or at any time secure the attention of America to peace proposals so long as the government of Germany does not represent the people for whom it pretends to speak. The war will not be over, so far as the United States is concerned, until the German government is one in which the people of Germany have true representation and the pledged of its government can be trusted in.

Additional telegraphic news on Page 8 today